ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Status of Projects

*241. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the projects under his Ministry;

(b) what is the percentage of loans recovered from the parties;

(c) whether any penal action has been taken against the defaulters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Ministry implements a variety of projects and programmes in different fields of non-conventional energy. The status of the various projects/programmes is given at Table-I. (*See* below)

(b) The Ministry itself does not directly give loans for projects. Projects in the area of non-conventional energy are given loans by the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) which is a financing company set up under the Ministry. The recovery percentage for 1999-2000 (including opening dues) was 62.26%.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. IREDA has been taking action against defaulters for recovery of its dues through various remedies available under the law. Details are given in Table-II.

TABLE-I

Status of various Non-Conventional Energy Systems and devices installed as on 30.6.2000 under various renewable energy projects and programmes of the Ministry

Source/System	Status/Achievement (as on 30-6-2000)
1. Biogas plants (No.)	30.34 lakhs
2. Improved Chulha (No.)	320 lakhs
3. Biomass Power & Bagasse based Cogeneration	235 MW
4. Biomass Gasifier	35 MW
5. Solar Photovoltaic	50 MW (equivalent)
i. Solar Street Lighting Systems	40022 Nos.
ii. Home Lighting Systems	129527 Nos.
iii. Solar Lanterns	304753 Nos
iv. SPV Power Plants	913.82 kWp
6. Solar Thermal Solar Water Heating Systems	4,67,692 sq. mtr. Collector area
7. Wind Power	1175 MW
8. Small Hydro Power (upto 15 MW)	239 MW
9. Integrated Rural Energy Programme	860 Blocks (old)
10. Energy Parks	192 Nos.
11. Wind Pumps	654 Nos.
12. Hybrid Systems	90 KW
13. Solar PV Pumps	3182 Nos.
14. Solar Photovoltaic Power	1310 KW
15. Solar Cookers	4,74,674 Nos.
16. Energy Recovery from wastes	15.74 MW
17. Battery Operated Vehicles	227 Nos.

MW = Mega-Watt KW = Kilo Watt Sq.m. = Square meter kwp = Kilo watt peak

TABLE-II

A. Law suits filed in the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) as on 30.6.2000

Sector	No. of suits field in DRT as on 30.6.2000
Briquetting	11
Solar Thermal	1
Solar Photovaltaic	4
Wind	10
Methane Recovery	1
Biomass Power	1
Total	28

B. Cases filed Under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act as on 30.6.2000

Sector	No. of cases filed u/s 138 of N.I. Act as on 30.6.2000
Briquetting	1
Solar Thermal	19
Solar Photovoltaic	36
Wind	202
Methane Recovery	7

Biomass Power	1
Small Hydro	2
High-efficiency Wood burning Stoves	2
Total	270

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, energy generation is very essential for the development of industry in our country. Non-conventional energy sources have to be utilised fully. In the answer given by the hon. Minister, the status of various projects is enumerated in Table-I. According to that, a total of 1,549 MW energy through six items out of 17 items is generated. I would like to know whether this quantum is per year or from the inception of the schemes to this period. From the other 11 items in the statement given, the production of energy has not been given in quantum-wise, but in number-wise. I would like to know from the Minister whether any assessment has been made in quantum-wise and if so, the details there of. What steps have been taken to augment the production in these 17 items?

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the quantum of energy generated indicated in the Table-I is from the beginning till 30-6-2000. In respect of other items like biogas plants, improved chulha, solar street lighting, home lighting systems, solar photovoltaic power plants, Integrated Rural Energy Programme, energy parks, wind pumps, solar cookers, etc., energy is not generated. Under these items, renewable sources are utilised. Hence, the number-wise figures are given for these items.

(THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the chair*)

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Hon. Deputy Chairman, it is mentioned in Table-II that 28 suits are pending regarding the recovery of loan and 270 cases are filed under section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act. For how long have these cases been

pending? How much amount is involved in these two sets of cases? What is the role of the IREDA in the recovery process? Is it true that the concession given earlier for the production of wind energy is withdrawn? If so, what are the details thereof? Recently, our hon. Prime Minister, during his visit to Kayatthar in Tamil Nadu, has declared that we would be achieving a six per cent growth, that is, 10,000 mw in the field of non-conventional energy by 2012. Has the Government formulated an Action Plan to achieve this goal? If so, what are the details thereof? Regarding the Muppandal wind mill energy—I am coming from that area—there is a slow pace in progress now. What is the reason for it?

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam, there are four questions. The amount involved in the 28 Debt Recovery Tribunal cases is Rs. 36.11 crores and the amount involved in the 270 cases under the Negotiable Instruments Act is Rs. 91.12 crores. It is difficult to read the entire list. There are 298 names of companies. If the Member so desires, I will place on the Table of the House the list of names with the particulars of amounts due and required further.

Another question is about the measures taken by the IREDA. The measure undertaken by the IREDA are:

(i) Initiating action under the law, like filing a suit under the Debt Recovery Tribunal and action under section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act;

(ii) Invoking the bank guarantee against the defaulter wherever available;

(iii) Advising borrowers that information regarding their default will be passed on to other banks and financial institutions;

(iv) Considering possibilities of publishing names of defaulters through the Reserve Bank of India.

Further, the Ministry has written to the Chief Secretaries of all States to amend their land revenue laws to enable outstanding dues of the IREDA to be collected as arrears of land revenue. The matter

is still under process. Another question is about wind energy. The slow pace of installation of wind energy since 1996-97 can mainly be attributed to the following factors:—

Slow-down of general economic and industrial activities which has curbed private investments; the impact of the introduction of Minimum Alternate Tax, MAT; and the reduction of corporation tax rate during 1996-97 and the extent of benefit from accelerated depreciation; inadequate power evacuation facilities and delays in major potential areas, delays in land allotment, forestry clearance and state level approvals; and the impact of the damage to wind turbines in Gujarat due to severe cyclonic storm in June, 1998. With the improvement in general economic conditions and the pro-active policy of the Government to encourage large corporates in both the private and public sectors, the pace of wind power installations has started improving. Against a target of 100 mw, wind power capacity of 143 mw was added last year. A target of 200 mw has been fixed for the current year.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Along with the list of hundreds of people, you would kindly lay it on the Table of the House so that we can have other supplementaries.

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: The question is a long question. Actually, four questions are there.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know. It is a big question and it is an important question. And you have got a good answer to that. Mr. Minister, we have very limited time. So, except the alternate source of information, you can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Madam, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that some of the facilities which we are creating, are not properly and fully utilised for want of servicing facilities. For example, when I was the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, I made some experiment in one of the rural blocks in regard to the extensive use of solar energy. The figure given by the Minister is 304753. But the problem which we faced was that, after some time, if there was some difficulty, there was no alternative arrangement of repairing it and putting it to

service. And no private sector is coming forward because the number is so small that if they want to create a repairing facility, it would not be cost-beneficiary. So, they are not coming forward. I would like to know whether the Government can think of providing some sort of servicing facility at places where there is a lot of utilisation of these instruments and equipment so that they can be put into optimal utilisation. Secondly, though we are talking of the involvement of the NGOs and other things, this is one area where full participation of the NGOs and panchayats can really make a dent, and if we have an extensive use of it, it will be possible for us to reduce our dependence on imported energy. I would like to know whether the Government can contemplate of a comprehensive scheme involving a large number of NGOs to facilitate these projects.

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam, the Ministry has a model regulation for building by-laws, making solar assistance and water heating system mandatory for several categories. The model is for adoption by various municipal corporations, cities and local Governments. It is true that the country has good solar radiation and there is a potential for use of both solar, thermal and... (*Interruption*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, the Member has put a very simple question. I know of the initiative that the Government is taking regarding the individual solar energy projects on individual housing. But what the hon. Member wants to know is that, to make it more people-oriented, could you involve the panchayats and the NGOs to make it more effective? Has the Government taken note of it?

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam, the hon. Member has given a good suggestion. The Government will consider this suggestion.

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Madam, the hon. Minister is from my State. I would like to put a very simple question to him. Very near to the Kanyakumari district, in the Muppandal area, a lot of private wind mills have been set up from 1992 onwards. Now, as of today, almost, all the private wind mills are in a sick condition. A loan was already sanctioned for the private power mill

and a subsidy was given by the Government. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has taken any action to find out the reason for this sickness in the wind mills.

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam, I have already answered the question.

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Madam, I have put a very simple question relating to that area. But the Minister has not answered my question. Madam, both of us come from the same area. I wanted to know from the hon. Minister as to why the wind mills are in a sick condition in that area. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: The reply was inclusive of the Kanyakumari district.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a very pointed question about one particular project in Kanyakumari district. I believe, both of you belong to the same area, and he might be better aware of it than you. He has answered that in the main reply.

SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: That is why I am asking this question.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Sarla Maheshwari. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam, if he wants the particulars, please ask him to give notice for a separate question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

AN HON. MEMBER: He can put a supplementary question.

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी: उपसभापति महोदया, हमारे देश में गैर पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोतों की जितनी संभावनाएं हैं, उसकी तुलना में उतना ही कम उनका दोहन हो रहा है। खुद मंत्री महोदय ने जो आंकड़े दिए हैं, वे इसके गवाह हैं। उन्होंने जो आंकड़े दिए हैं विशेषकर बॉयो मास के बारे में और पवन विद्युत के बारे में, मैं उनसे प्रश्न पूछना चाहूंगी कि क्या कारण है कि हमारे देश में सिर्फ 9 राज्यों में बॉयो मास के प्रोजेक्ट चल रहे हैं पावर जेनरेशन के और उसमें भी जिन 9 राज्यों में वे चल रहे हैं, उनमें भी काफी असमानता है। सिर्फ तमिलनाडु में 98 मेगावाट का प्रोजेक्ट चल रहा है जबकि देश के दूसरे राज्यों को उसकी तुलना में देखें तो आंध्र में 12.0, गुजरात में 0.5 इस प्रकार के आंकड़े मेरे पास उपलब्ध हैं। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती

हूं कि शायद वे तमिलनाडु से आते हैं इसलिए तमिलनाडु की ओर ज्यादा ध्यान है, तो तमिलनाडु में जो बॉयो मास के प्रोजेक्ट चल रहे हैं, उनकी क्या स्थिति है और कितने प्रोजेक्ट पूर्ण हुए हैं? उनमें कितना रुपया लगाया गया और कितनों से रुपया आना बकाया है? और मेरा दूसरा सवाल इसी से जुड़ा हुआ पवन विद्युत के बारे में है।

उपसभापतिः आप एक ही सवाल पूछ सकती हैं।

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरीः महोदया, यह पार्ट बी है। मैंने पहले ही अपने मूल प्रश्न में यह कह दिया था कि दो प्रोजेक्टों के बारे में मैं बात करना चाहूंगी और अब मैं पवन विद्युत के बारे में बात करना चाहूंगी। खुद मंत्री महोदय इस बात को जानते हैं कि हमारे देश में ...पवन विद्युत के बारे में वे कहते हैं... उनकी वार्षिक रिपोर्ट में भी यह दिया हुआ है कि 20,000 मेगावाट की संभावनाएं हैं और मंत्री महोदय ने जो हमें आंकड़ा दिया है, उसमें सिर्फ 1175 मेगावाट कहा है। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूं कि पश्चिमी बंगाल और विशेषकर पूर्वांचल में जहां पवन विद्युत की अपूर्व संभावनाएं हैं, वहां आप कौन से प्रोजेक्ट चला रहे हैं और भविष्य में आपकी क्या योजना है? इसका एक खाका आप हमारे सामने बनाकर रखें तो मैं बहुत आभारी रहूंगी।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I hope the translation was properly done.

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam, it is very long question. I can give a written answer.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. You know what she is saying. ...(*Interruptions*)... You know what she is saying. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Madam, there is no harm if he gives a written answer.

SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Okay. He can give, but what about the wind power generation? He is saying that 20,000 MW potential is there.

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: He will give it in his written answer.

SHRIMATI SARLA HAHESHWARI: What projects he is undertaking, he can, at least, share that with the House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, what about the

projects which are running in loss? You have been asked to give a written answer. Lay it on the Table of the House, with complete description of it, because there are hundreds of projects which are not running. But she is asking a specific question. According to your answer, 20,000 MW-capacity is there for wind power generation. There is a possibility. There is so much wind available, especially on the eastern sector. In West Bengal, Orissa etc., we also get cyclones. What are your future projects? Are you going to make any plans? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam Deputy Chairman, we are the fifth largest country in the wind power sector. Wind projects are depending on the availability of wind resources. In West Bengal, the wind-flow is very poor. So, we do not execute any projects.

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Have you now understood it? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Have you seen the wind-flow? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सतीश प्रधान: मैडम, वहां दूसरी तरह की हवा चलती है।

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: You don't have wind in West Bengal!

SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Madam, this is the map. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्रीमती चन्द्रकला पांडेय: हवा के पैमाने की जांच भी नहीं करवा सकते हैं।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Raja Ramanna. You better ask a very scientific question.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Madam Deputy Chairperson, there are many reasons why non-conventional energy resources are spreading or are not spreading in the country. One reason, which you have mentioned, of course, is the use of Panchayati Raj, and so on and so forth. I think there is a deeper question which takes a longer time to answer. That is about the technological attitudes. As Pandit Nehru used to say the scientific temper or technology temper is missing in the rural areas, and also in the urban areas. Madam, what

I suggest to the Hon. Minister is that in our educational programmes at secondary level, people must go through the use of such schemes, maintenance of batteries, maintenance of various things which are useful for the use of power which is so easily available. But the people in the villages are just frightened to touch it or the mischievous people spoil it. I know it from my personal experience. But without training the people how to use it, just giving them money or just giving them the machine will not work.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a good suggestion.

SHRI M. KANNAPPAN: Madam, it is a very good suggestion. Many a time the users do not accept renewable energy technology, as they are unaware of the potential benefits of using them. I would suggest that renewable energy education should be made part of the school and college curriculum and it is only with the dissemination of the information that the benefits of renewable energy would reach the common man.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a good answer. What I believe is that his idea was not only to include it in the school curriculum but also, when you hand over this solar energy projects or wind energy projects, whatever the projects, to train them. Has the Government got any plan to have such an orientation programme for the villages where there is a potential for alternate sources of energy? You have to say only this.

MDA for handloom products

*242. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on Sathyam Committee recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to help the handloom industries; and